(ख) यदि हां,तो क्या सरकार सतर्कता आयुक्त के पद को समाप्त करना चाहती हैं ?

कार्मिक,लोक-शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा वित्त मंत्रालय (बैंकिंग,राजस्व और बीमा) में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कादम्बूर एम.आर.जनार्दनन) : (क) जी,हां ।

(ख) जी,नहीं ।

Collection of money by Kendriya Bhandar

1013. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kendriya Bhandar is collecting large sums of money from the suppliers it registers and does not pay interest thereon;

(b) if so, how much money has the Kendriya Bhandar collected so far and at what rate from the suppliers and the reasons for sparing some suppliers for not paying the money; and

(c) under which law is the Kendriya Bhandar doing so and . what stepis Government are taking to ensure the stopping of the illegal pratice forthwith and to refund the entire money to the suppliers with interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANAR-THANAN): (a) and (b) As per its approved purchase policy, Kendriya Bhandar invites tenders for registration of suppliers wherein tenders are required to deposit earnest money of Rs. 10,000/- This money is refunded to unsuccessful tenderers after finalisation of the tenders. In case of successful tenderers this money is converted into security deposit and retained by Kendriya Bhandar. Security deposit of Rs. 10,000/- is also levied from manufacturers/authorised distributors of branded products who submit their proposals for registration in Kendriya Bhandar. No interest is paid on the earnest money/security deposit by Kendriya Bhandar.

Security deposit is not insisted upon from public sector undertakings and cooperative societies. Exemptions may also be given in very hard cases as an exception. As on date, an amount of Rs. 91.97 lakhs is lying Kendriya Bhandar as security deposit/earnest money deposit.

(c) According to Kendriya Bhandar, there is a practice to collect earnest money and security deposit against tenders invited / suppliers registered. Earnest money is levied to ensure that tenderers do not withdraw their offers within the tender validity period. This also ensures that only serious bidders participate in the tenders. Security deposit is levied for due performance of the supply contract and is part of the contract mutually agreed upon. Security deposit is refunded to the concerned suppliers on their request if either they themselves or the Kendriya Bhandar decide(s) to discontinue supplies.

Replies to letters of MPs by Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

1014. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inordinate delay is taking place in replying to the letters of the Members of Parliament by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of letters pending reply in the Ministry and since when;

(d) whether the Ministry is the nodal Ministry to issue guidelines to other Ministries to answer the letters of M.Ps; and

(e) if so, the reasons for its failing in not replying to letters and by which date will all the pending letters be replied?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC - GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND